Rajya Sabha on the 11th March, 1986 and state:

(a) whether a cut in the allocations for NCR plan would open flood gates of serious social, economic, environmental and law and order problems in the Capital; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken for socio-economic development of the areas around Delhi, with strengthening of infrastructural facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is no cut in the approved Plan allocations for NCR Schemes.

(b) Does not arise.

Completion of Chandala Elephant senctuary project

3274. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the completion of Chandaka Elephant sanctuary project in Orissa has been delayed due to non-release of the proposed Central assistance; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The Ministry of Tourism has not received any proposal from the State Government, to provide central assistance for Chandaka Eelephant sanctuary project.

(b) Does not arise.

Water shortage and denial of access to forest resources in tribal areas

3275. SHRIMATI ELA RAMESH BHATT: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in Hindustan Times of 28th February, 1988 regarding water shortage and denial of access to forest resource in tribal areas in Madhya Padesh and if so, corrective step taken/proposed; and

(b) the position regarding other tribal areas of the country as at (a) above and in respect of employment opportunities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMAT SUMATI ORAON): (a) Yes, Sir. In Madhya Pradesh, area under irrigation in tribal areas is 4.18 per cent of the net sown area compared to the State average of 14 per cent. The State Government has been giving special attention to improving irrigation facilities in tribal areas through medium and minor irrigation schemes under Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP): During Sixth Plan, the State Govt. spent Rs. 95.49 crores under minor irrigation alone. During Seventh Plan, Rs. 325 croes are planned to be spent for developing irrigation in tribal areas of which Rs. 171 crores are for minor irrigation works.

In the State, the tribals enjoy the right of usufruct from forest for domestic consumption and are allowed to collect minor forest produce free of charge.

(b) Area under irrigation in tribal areas is generally lower compared to the other areas in the country. That is why substantial outlays are earmarked for developing irrigation in tribal areas through minor irrigation works. During the Sixth Plan, Rs. 262 crores were spent under the Tribal Sub-Plan for these works. Government of India has suggested to the State including the State of Madhya Pradesh for preparing Master Plan for minor irrigation woks in tribal areas.

In almost all the TSP States, traditional rights to collect minor forest produce items from the forests have been recognised which, in some states, is a major source of earning for tribals. In the tree plantations under forestry sector in tribal areas, emphasis is laid on planting pecies which are relevant to tribals like food, fruit, fuel, timber, etc. with the direct involvement of tribals through their co-operative. The position on these items is reviewed further during the Annual Tribal Sub-Plan discussions with the States.